



PATENT  
0649-0619P

4/16/03  
17c

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yasuyuki TANAKA et al. Conf.: 5656

Appl. No.: 08/941,132 Group: 1713

Filed: September 30, 1997 Examiner: F. Zitomer

For: MODIFIED NATURAL RUBBER

**GROUP 1700**  
APR 15 2003  
**RECEIVED**

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

April 11, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Office Action dated December 11, 2002, the period for response having been extended one month to April 11, 2003, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (5x Amended). A modified natural rubber obtained by a modification of a deproteinized natural rubber having a nitrogen content of less than 0.10% by weight;

K1

wherein said deproteinized natural rubber is prepared with nonionic surfactants or a combination of nonionic surfactants and anionic surfactants;

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